

HOUSE BILL 1618

By Brooks H

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 13, relative to charter schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-104(7), is amended by deleting the language:

"Sponsor" means any individual, group, or other organization filing an application in support of the establishment of a public charter school;

and by substituting instead the language:

"Sponsor" means any individual, group, other organization or city that does not operate a city school district filing an application in support of the establishment of a public charter school;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-106(a)(1), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision (G):

(G) Students who reside within a city which is the sponsor of the public charter schools and the city's urban growth boundaries. The city's urban growth boundaries shall be those boundaries established pursuant to title 6, chapter 58, part 1, as of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-113, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

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(1) A charter school for which a city is the sponsor shall enroll an eligible pupil residing within the city or its urban growth boundaries pursuant to § 49-13-

106(a)(1)(G) who submits a timely application unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level or building.

(2) If applications exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level or building of the public charter school for which a city is the sponsor, then first preference in enrollment shall be given to the pupils in attendance at the charter school in the previous school year. Second preference shall be given to siblings of pupils in attendance at the charter school in the previous school year. All other students shall be accorded third preference.

(3) If at any time in the process of acceptance of students, the number of students in a group of preference whose applications have not been acted upon exceeds the remaining capacity of the program, class, grade level or building of the charter school to which the students seek admittance, then the charter school shall conduct a lottery to determine the students to be admitted.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.